(d) the progress of the investigation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) In the blast on 18 February 2007 in Delhi-Attari Express, the link train of Samjhauta express, 68 people were killed and 12 injured. Out of the 49 dead bodies identified, 40 were of Pakistani nationals. The identified dead bodies were handed over to their relatives.

(b) to (d) The investigation is currently in progress. Government expect that the Government of Pakistan will provide access to the Pakistani passengers of the train if required for the investigation.

Children kept hostage in Malaysia

†2612. SHRI AJAY MAROO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 27 children of Jamshedpur situated in Jharkhand are kept hostage in Malaysia;

(b) if so, the action being taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if not, whether Government would take necessary steps for the release of these children after investigating the facts in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Government have seen news reports stating that twenty seven children from Jamshedpur, Jharkhand have been held as hostages in Malaysia. The Indian High Commission in Malaysia has requested the local authorities to investigate the matter on a priority basis.

Killing of fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy

2613. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM:
SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Government has taken any steps to stop the killing of innocent fishermen of Tamil Nadu by Sri Lankan Navy;

(b) if so, whether his Ministry has taken up the matter with Sri Lankan authorities;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.